Claims:

Sub A1

1. A system for user behavior based ranking of a document, comprising:

means for determining a feature vector associated with a document, the feature vector comprising weights for certain terms that appear in the document; and

means for modifying the feature vector for the document based on user actions during a search session so that the document is more highly ranked in response to the user actions.

2. The system of Claim 1 further comprising means for collecting user actions in response to a list of documents produced in response to a query wherein the user actions include selecting a document from the list of documents.

Sub B1

3. The system of Claim 2 further comprises means for adjusting the weights of the terms in the feature vector that match terms in a query that produced the list of documents so that the ranking of the document is higher in response to the adjustment of the weights.

Sub A2

4. A method for user behavior based ranking of a document, comprising:

determining a feature vector associated with a document, the feature vector comprising weights for one or more terms that appear in the document; and

modifying the feature vector for the document based on user actions during a query of the document so that the document is more highly ranked in response to the user actions.

5. The method of Claim 4 further comprising means for collecting user actions in response to a list of documents produced in response to a query wherein the user actions include selecting a document from the list of documents.

6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the modifying means further comprises means for adjusting the frequency values of the terms in the feature vector that match terms in a query that produced the list of documents so that the ranking of the document is higher in response to the adjustment of the frequency values.

Sub A3

7. A system for user behavior based searching of a document based on a query having one or more query terms, comprising:

means for determining a feature vector associated with a document, the feature vector comprising weights for certain terms that appear in the document;

means for modifying the feature vector for the document based on user actions during a query of the document so that the document is more highly ranked in response to the user actions; and

means for returning the same document to another user with the same query at a higher ranking due to the modified feature vector.

8. The system of Claim 7 further comprising means for collecting user actions in response to a list of documents produced in response to a query wherein the user actions include selecting a document from the list of documents.

9. The system of Claim 8, wherein the modifying means further comprises means for adjusting the frequency values of the terms in the feature vector that match terms in a query that produced the list of documents so that the ranking of the document is higher in response to the adjustment of the frequency values.

10. A method for user behavior based searching of a document based on a query having one or more query terms, comprising:

determining a feature vector associated with a document, the feature vector comprising frequency values for one or more terms that appear in the document;

modifying the feature vector for the document based on user actions during a query of the document so that the document is more highly ranked in response to the user actions; and

returning the same document to another user with the same query at a higher ranking due to the modified feature vector.

11. The method of Claim 10 further comprising means for collecting user actions in response to a list of documents produced in response to a query wherein the user actions include selecting a document from the list of documents.

12. The method of Claim 11, wherein the modifying means further comprises means for adjusting the frequency values of the terms in the feature vector that match terms in a query that produced the list of documents so that the ranking of the document is higher in response to the adjustment of the frequency values.